

#2/A
8-2101
M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Lawrence PAGE)
This is a Continuation of pending) Group Art Unit: 2171
Application No. 09/004,827)
filed on January 9, 1998) Examiner: U. Le
For: METHOD FOR NODE)
RANKING IN A LINKED)
DATABASE)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Various aspects of the present invention provide systems and methods for ranking documents in a linked database. One aspect provides an objective ranking based on the relationship between documents. Another aspect of the invention is directed to a

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